

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-11 are pending, claims 6-11 having been withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found, for example, in the present specification at page 6, lines 9 to 11, and in original claim 1. No new matter is added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,001,326 to Kim et al. ("Kim"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 recites "[a] titanium dioxide powder, having: a rutile content of 80% or more; a BET specific surface area of from 30 to 100 m²/g; and a particle size distribution (SPAN) of 3.3 or less" (emphasis added). Kim does not disclose or suggest such a titanium dioxide powder.

The Office Action relies on Kim for its alleged disclosure of a titanium dioxide powder having a rutile content of 100%, a specific surface area of 150 to 200 m²/g, and an average particle size of 0.3 microns. *See, e.g.*, Office Action, page 2; Kim, column 8, line 60 to column 9, line 3. However, Kim does not remotely disclose or suggest a titanium dioxide powder having a BET specific surface area of from 30 to 100 m²/g, as required by claim 1.

As Kim fails to disclose or suggest a titanium dioxide powder having a BET specific surface area of from 30 to 100 m²/g, Kim fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1.

As explained, claim 1 is not anticipated by Kim. Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1 and, thus, also are not anticipated by Kim. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

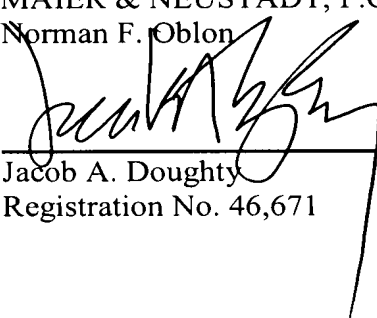
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that claims 1-11 are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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